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AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

September 8, 2016 | Vol. 38, No. 27 | \$1.00

www.agawamadvertiser.turley.com

MORGAN-SULLIVAN BRIDGE

Reconstruction will span 3 years

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

Residents in Agawam and neighboring West Springfield got their first look last week at plans to redesign three intersections and rebuild the Morgan-Sullivan Bridge, which connects the two communities.

The \$23.2 million project, to be undertaken starting in 2017, is

State-funded roadwork to add turn lanes, bike lane at busy crossings

being funded at about 80 percent by the federal government and 20 percent by the state government. The Massachusetts Department of Transportation is overseeing the project, though project manager Alwin Ramirez said Agawam Town Engineer Michelle Chase has been assisting with the plans for the project.

At a meeting held last Wednesday night at the Agawam Senior Center, Ramirez revealed the project will take three construction seasons, with parts of the bridge staying open throughout, and construction will be paused each September during the Big E.

Ramirez said the current bridge will be deconstructed and

the new bridge built one half at a time.

"We will tear down the east half of the bridge first, and traffic will still travel on the west side of the bridge while the new east side is built," said Ramirez. "Then the west side will be torn down and rebuilt."

The new bridge will have five

lanes instead of four. All five lanes will be 11 feet wide. In addition, there will be sidewalks on both sides and dedicated bicycle lanes, part of the state's Complete Streets initiative.

There are intersections on both sides of the bridge. According to the 25 percent design plans shown last week, the middle lane will serve as a dedicated left-turn

BRIDGE | page 10

Season

Youth football players and cheerleaders took the field last weekend for the start of the fall season. Above, Gianni Li-quori kicks off for the Agawam Warriors juniors team on Sept. 3. At left, pee-wee cheerleaders jump off the field. More youth football photos, page 11. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



kickoff

**PERRY LANE PARK**

Lions Club fundraising for new 'tot lot'

By Paul Burdziakowski
aan@turley.com

To celebrate the Lions' centennial, the local chapter is taking on a project half as old as Lions International itself.

The Agawam Lions Club is doing "very, very well" raising funds to update and upgrade the "tot lot" playground at Perry Lane Park, club officers said recently. The playground, for children aged 2-5, is adjacent to the town's Early

LIONS | page 6



Dick Lanier and Cheryl Terramagra, from the Agawam Lions Club, stand with some of the outdated playground equipment that they hope to replace at Perry Lane Park. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY PAUL BURDZIAKOWSKI

MURPHY'S PUB

Council assents to zone change

Noise complaints, expansion concerns of bar's neighbors referred to Planning Board

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

The Agawam City Council approved a zone change request for Murphy's Pub despite concerns raised by a pair of neighbors who complained of noise issues coming from the bar.

On Tuesday night, the council held a public hearing to listen to a pitch from Tom Murphy about the expansion and paving of his parking lot. While some questions were raised about the future of the business,

Murphy did not commit to any changes to the bar itself. Residents who spoke in opposition said they'd heard rumors that expansion of the bar is inevitable if Murphy could add parking.

Murphy's Pub is located at the corner of Suffield and Mill streets. The front of the building faces Suffield Street. The rear of the property is zoned agricultural, restricting Murphy's ability to pave the back of the parking lot. The lot is uneven and potholed because it

ZONE | page 6



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Agawam Advertiser News
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Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$75, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

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should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.



The equipment is turned off but a short shower on Tuesday — the kind that comes from rain clouds — accounted for the puddles at the spray park at School Street Park. After its second season in operation, the splash pad closed for 2016 on Labor Day, Sept. 5. It will reopen next June or July. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

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20 PAGES

Republicans to meet at the Senior Center

The Agawam Republican Town Committee will hold its regular monthly meeting Wednesday, Sept. 14, at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. The meeting will begin with a social hour at 6:30 p.m. followed by the regular business meeting at 7 p.m. The meeting is open to the public and anyone interested in learning more about the committee. Please note the change in the location of the meeting.

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Fall harvest celebration at Garden Club meeting

The Agawam Garden Club will meet Tuesday, Sept. 12, at 7 p.m. The program for the meeting is "Celebration of the Fall Harvest."

Those in attendance are asked to bring their favorite vegetable dish. It should be 75 percent vegetable and 25 percent additive, such as pasta, meat, sauce or gravy. Recipes

should be included with the dish. Only one recipe card is needed; it will set beside the dish.

There will also be a plant and vegetable swap. Members and non-members are welcome.

The meeting will take place at the Agawam Senior Center at 954 Main St.

Library shows landscape, still life art this month

The Agawam Public Library will feature the artwork of Alan Izatt during September. Izatt's work consists of mostly landscapes in oil and acrylic painted from photographs.

"I have a strong interest in photography, for which I find to be a great tool in capturing subject matter for ideas for paintings," stated Izatt.

The exhibit will also feature still life compositions, florals, animal portraits and seascapes. Izatt's artwork has been exhibited locally in area libraries and community and senior centers, most re-

cently, the Jones Library in Amherst.

The Agawam Library welcomes visitors Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Beginning Saturday, Sept. 10, the library will resume Saturday hours from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For information on displaying artwork in the library, contact Adult Services Librarian Cher Collins at 413-789-1550, ext. 8851 or ccollins@agawamlibrary.org.

The library is at 750 Cooper St., Agawam.

Catholic Women to hear motivational speaker

The first meeting of the Catholic Women's Club of Agawam will be held Monday, Sept. 12, in the Parish Center of St. John the Evangelist Church, 833 Main St., Agawam.

The guest speaker will be former Agawam High School teacher Judith O'Hare, who taught at Westfield State College and is now a motivational speaker. Her program, "You and Me Puppets, the Power to

Educate, and Entertain," will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m.

All those planning to attend should arrive no later than 6 p.m.

The Catholic Women's Club meeting will follow O'Hare's program and refreshments will be served. All members and their guests are welcome.

Agawam author, florist to chat about 'Baby' book

Local author and owner of Agawam Flower Shop, Angela Grout, will return to the Agawam Public Library at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 19, with her second book, "Dear Baby, Get Out!"

This is not a "what to expect when you are expecting" guide. It is a fast-paced, honest and humorous narrative of the moment-to-moment struggles of waiting to give birth.

Grout is a local florist with a passion for writing short stories and inspirational journeys. She finds inspiration in real life experiences and enjoys inspiring others through her faith.

To register for this AuthorTalk event, call 413-789-1550, ext. 4, or go to www.agawamlibrary.org. Books will be available for purchase and signing. The library is at 750 Cooper St., Agawam.

Tickets available for Chamber Food Fest

The West of the River Chamber of Commerce will host Food Fest West from 5:30-8 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 26, at Crestview Country Club, 281 Shoemaker Lane, Agawam.

The event will feature the foods of several area restaurants, including Chez Josef, Crestview Country Club, Partner's Restaurant and more.

Proceeds raised by Food Fest West will

go toward the Partnership for Education and the WRC Educational Fund, which provides grants to businesses for on the job training and continuing education needs.

Tickets are on sale now and are \$25 in advance at www.westoftheriverchamber.com, or \$35 at the door.

For more information about this event, contact the Chamber office at 413-426-3880 or info@westoftheriverchamber.com.

April run-walk to aid historical preservation

The Agawam Historical Association has announced plans for its first benefit 5K run-walk to be held at Agawam's School Street Park on Saturday, April 29. Proceeds from the event will aid in the preservation and display of historic artifacts at the Agawam Historical and Fire House Museum at 35 Elm St., Agawam, and the preservation of the c. 1757 Thomas Smith House at 251 N. West St. in Feeding Hills.

"Dash for the Past" organizer and historical association board member Grace Tilden was inspired by similar events in other communities and felt the format could help raise funds, and awareness, of the association's activities.

"The history of our town is so interesting," said Tilden. "Our hope is that families will become involved in this event and have fun while they support a great cause."

Tilden is appreciative of the support she's received for the event from town officials.

"We are fortunate to be able to hold this run-walk at the School Street Park. It's a great facility, and Parks and Recreation Department Chris Sparks has been very help-

ful with the planning," she said.

Sponsors are currently being sought, and more details of the event will be announced in the coming months.

The private, nonprofit Agawam Historical Association was founded on Nov. 15, 1962. Its stated purpose and objectives are: To encourage an interest in the collection and preservation of historic materials, documents, and landmarks pertaining to the town of Agawam, Massachusetts, so as to be available for the enjoyment of present and future generations; To provide educational opportunities for the dissemination and understanding of facts concerning Agawam's history and the cultivation of civic pride in Agawam's heritage; and, To provide facilities for the proper storage, preservation, and public display of historic artifacts and documents.

To that end, the Agawam Historical Association operates the Agawam Historical and Fire House Museum. Membership and event information can be found at agawamhistoricalassoc.webs.com or www.facebook.com/agawamhistoricalassoc.

Junior Women welcome newcomers Sept. 20

and Bingo for Books.

Area women looking to get more involved in their community are encouraged to attend. For more information, email info@agawamgfwc.com, or visit www.agawamgfwc.com as well as the clubs Facebook page.

The Senior Center is at 954 Main St., Agawam.

TVAA to open season with Sept. 21 meeting

Tobacco Valley Artists Association will open its season Wednesday, Sept. 21, at 6:30 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center. The first painting demonstration of the year will be presented by featured artist, William "Willie" H. Hoey, of Enfield, Conn.

Hoey's experience in sketching and painting spans many years and two countries. Born in Glasgow, Scotland, he studied technical illustration at the Glasgow School of Art. He was also employed as a technical illustrator for an engineering company before emigrating to the United States.

His appreciation for landscape, especially trees is depicted in his artwork by using a watercolor or oil medium. Some of Hoey's finest watercolor paintings are done not on traditional watercolor paper, but on a challenging plastic paper called Yupo. Through years of experience, he has developed techniques for controlling the results and preserving the finished product.

Hoey has participated in numerous juried art shows throughout New England, and has received several awards for his artwork. He has also exhibited in several locations throughout Connecticut and Massachusetts, and is a member of Tobacco Valley Artists Association, the Connecticut River Valley Artists, the Connecticut Watercolor Society, and the Academic Artists Association.

TVAA membership is comprised mainly of member artists who reside throughout Connecticut and Massachusetts and all artists and friends of the arts are welcomed to join. Regular meetings and art demonstrations are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. TVAA also holds two member shows, one in the spring and one in the fall. The public is always welcome to attend.

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Opinion

OUR VIEW

Memory of 9/11 attacks is still important

As our nation reeled in shock at the terror attacks 15 years ago, commentators were quick to understand that it would be the defining moment of a generation, a single event whose aftermath would dominate for decades.

They compared it to two other shocking tragedies, the Pearl Harbor attack and the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Sept. 11, 2001, would be a new generation's "date which will live in infamy," the 21st century's first bold-letter contribution to the history books.

It's just about time to put 9/11 in the history books. Hard as it may be to grasp, for those of us who can still remember the deadliest terrorist attack in history as though it happened yesterday, it's now been 15 years. There are high schoolers sitting in history classes today who were not yet born when al-Qaeda terrorists crashed airliners into the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and a field in Pennsylvania. There are college history majors and history graduate students on campus, today, who were mere toddlers in 2001, and only know about the attacks from books, television and conversations with their elders. Some of the police, firefighters and EMTs who keep us safe today were too young to have mourned their brother officers in New York City who gave their lives trying to rescue victims from the Twin Towers on that terrible day.

Fifteen years after Kennedy died, it was 1978. His memory was still alive, but as a nation we had moved beyond Camelot, for better and for worse. Not only had we fulfilled JFK's promise and gone to the moon, but we'd tired of it and, by 1978, hadn't been back for nearly six years. We'd escalated, de-escalated and pulled out of the Vietnam War. The optimistic America of the New Frontier had been reined in by a decade and a half of war protests, civil rights battles, Watergate, an oil embargo and "stagflation."

Fifteen years after Pearl Harbor, it was 1956. America was the world's leading economic and military superpower, we were finally at peace again after World War II and the Korean War, though the Cold War — and the threat of nuclear annihilation — was on the rise. It was a far cry from 1941, with a nation still recovering from the Great Depression and a world in which democrats partnered with communists to fight against a fascist axis that seemed poised to dominate the world.

Fifteen years after Sept. 11, we find ourselves this weekend marking another sad anniversary, but an increasing number of our neighbors are not remembering — they are learning. As America continues to grow and change, a decade and a half after 9/11, it's especially important that our youngest citizens take some time to recognize the death of nearly 3,000 civilians, honor the sacrifice of first responders and recognize the threat of terrorism.

Slowly, 9/11 is passing into history — that's inevitable. But we should make sure that our nation remembers this history. Some dates do live in infamy.

What do you think? Email your letter to the editor to aan@turley.com.

Let us know

The Agawam Advertiser News, your community newspaper, welcomes letters, submissions, photographs and news tips from residents of Agawam and Feeding Hills.

The best way to contact us is by telephone, 413-786-7747, or email, aan@turley.com.

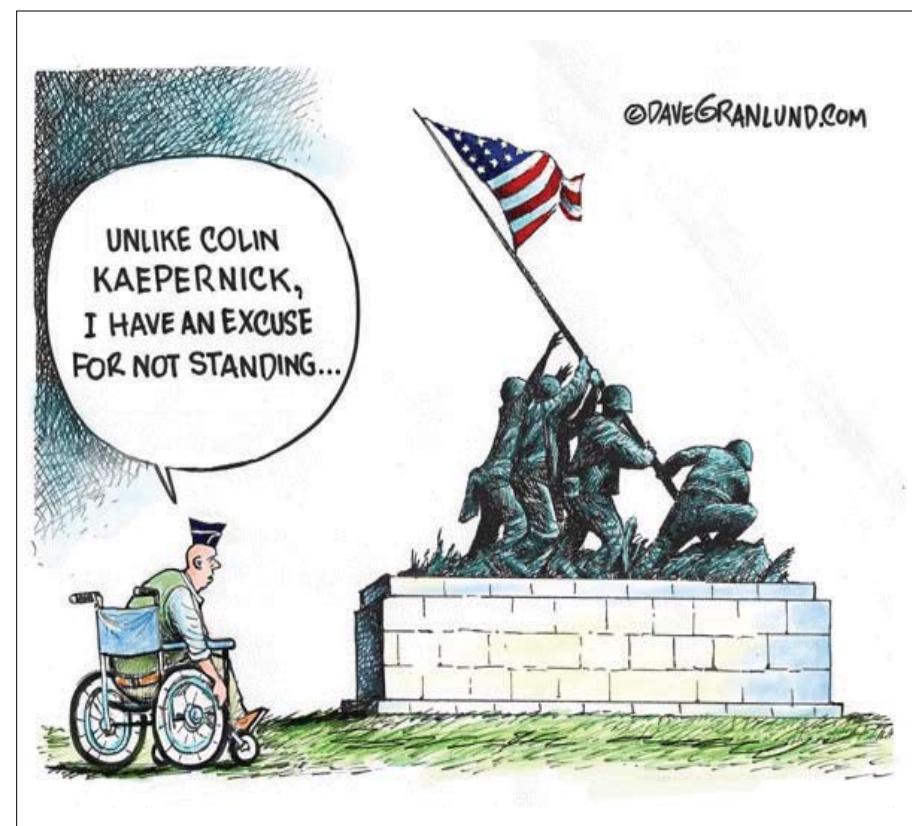
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Our office is open Monday through Thursday mornings, and other weekday times by appointment.



YESTERDAY'S HOMETOWN NEWS

Catching up with the first Brownie laxers

Dan Tomassetti was president of the Class of 1960 and was also voted Mr. Personality by his classmates. He played football for three years and then went on to Nichols College in Dudley. (Bryce Kibbe, Cliff Kibbe's grandson, is there now.)

At Nichols, one of Dan's friends suggested he try playing lacrosse. "What's lacrosse?" Dan replied. Apparently Dan figured it out quickly, as he won the Foster Trophy for the most improved freshman. Nichols used the bucket defense playing against Holy Cross, Middlebury, Tufts, Trinity, Bowdoin and Brown. Dan graduated in 1964 after winning the Dr. Samuel Wiley trophy for the best lacrosse player — pretty good for a guy who never played in high school.

Dan had a career in sales and marketing, working at Hamilton Standard, Milton Bradley and even two years as the marketing director at Riverside Park. The last two decades before retirement he sold school supplies all over the East Coast and other parts of the U.S. His son, Dan Jr., now lives in Minneapolis. Back at Longmeadow High he was All-Western Mass. in gymnastics, another sport AHS didn't have in the old days. Dan Jr. recently arranged for his parents to tour the new Minnesota Vikings stadium.

Now retired, Dan Sr. is active in his class reunions and helped this column last year by donating a pile of old AHS Mirrors — plenty of information that's really hard to find. Dan's class had me as their guest at their 55th last year.

The new Agawam Sports Hall of Fame is inducting nine athletes. Because I nominated the older ones this year, the youngest being in the class of 1960, I did not get to Bob Morin '64. Those of us who saw him compete in the early '60s know that he is one of the best athletes to come out of AHS. He was one of those guys who shined at every sport he played. If they had a tiddlywinks team, he would have been the best player. One day in 1963 at baseball practice, track coach Ray Weiner asked if he could borrow Bobby for a half-hour. Bob went over to the track meet, won the broad jump and came back, still in his baseball cleats. When pitching, he had a



Daniel Tomassetti



Robert Morin

great curve ball and a pickoff move that the Red Sox pitchers should learn. The first base runner in each game was a sitting duck. From then on, the runners would take leads of four to five feet to prevent being the next victim.

Bobby Morin went to Notre Dame after AHS and made the freshman football and baseball teams as a walk-on. He got talked into trying lacrosse and you can guess what happened after that. He was named to the All-Midwest lacrosse team in 1967, 1968 and 1969. In his junior year Bob scored 32 of his team's 83 goals playing against teams like Michigan State, Duke and Ohio State. In his senior year, he scored more goals than all of

his teammates combined. His success at Notre Dame was not just lacrosse. In the architectural program he came in third in a national competition sponsored by Pittsburgh Plate Glass, winning \$500. Remember, that was a lot of money back in 1967.

Bobby got his master's degree in architecture from Syracuse in 1972. After a two-year apprenticeship in Vermont, he got his license and designed homes there for five years before moving to Rhode Island, where he has been since. Bob has three children — Mike, Kelly and Alex — and still races sailboats in Newport. He and his wife Edith have raced their sloop for 25 years.

As for lacrosse, my guess is that Bobby could make the boys varsity team this year if the rules would let him.

Walt Willard went to AHS and taught math there for 16 years. He can be reached at 413-786-7924. Call him. Walt loves your feedback and any and all information or tidbits you can offer.

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AGAWAM

The Agawam Advertiser News (USPS 001-170) is published every Thursday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069.

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School Committee meeting

Roberta G. Doering School
68 Main St.
Tuesday, Sept. 13 — 7 p.m.

1. Call to order
2. Executive session — 6:30 p.m. (Contract negotiations)
3. Moment of silence
4. Roll call of attendance
5. Regular meeting — 7 p.m.
6. Citizen's Speak Time
7. Highlights on Education:
 - a. Agawam Sports Hall of Fame presentation
 - b. Superintendent's Notes
 - c. Student Advisory Committee representative update
 - d. Introduction of Joseph Joyal
10. Unfinished business: None
11. Business meeting
 - a. Routine matters
 - 1) Approval of minutes
 - 2) Calendar/Correspondence
 - b. Warrants/Transfers
 - c. Reports:
 - 1) Scheduled reports:
 - Summer school update (paper report)
 - Summer Enrichment program update (paper report)
 - Technology update — M. Feeley
 - 2) Subcommittee updates
 12. New business:
 - a. SCR-16-24, Approval of use of Granger School for "Let's Gogh Art" after school enrichment program
 13. Any other items that may legally come before the committee
 14. Adjournment

Cultural Council seeks proposals for \$11K in state grant funds

With money available to award through grants, the Agawam Cultural Council is seeking proposals from local community-oriented arts, humanities and interpretive science programs in need of funding. The Agawam Cultural Council has set Monday, Oct. 17, as the postmark deadline for organizations, schools and individuals to apply for grants that support or provide cultural activities for the Agawam community. According to Cultural Council spokesman Bob Kadis, these grants can support a variety of artistic projects and activities in Agawam — including exhibits, festivals, short-term artist residencies or performances in schools, workshops and lectures. The council also encourages funding requests from schools and youth groups to cover ticket and transportation costs for field trips for school-age children. The council has \$11,600 available for grants, Kadis said, the same amount as last year.

Applications are being accepted online only at www.mass-culture.org/Agawam, by clicking on the "Council Priorities" tab. Information about the grants program can also be found at agawamcc.org. If there are questions about the online application process, contact Jennifer Atwood of the Massachusetts Cultural Council at 617-858-2703 or jennifer.atwood@art.state.ma.us, or Kadis at 413-789-4814 or r.kadis@comcast.net.

The Local Cultural Council Program, of which the Agawam Cultural Council is a part, is a grant program of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. The agency provides allocations to each of Massachusetts' 351 cities and towns to support cultural activities. These funds are then dispersed through a strict grant process conducted by the all-volunteer network of 329 Local Cultural Councils. This is the largest program of its kind in the United States.

Free English class offered at library

The Agawam Public Library will offer an interactive conversational English class every Monday evening from 6 to 7:30 p.m., starting Sept. 12. This free class is sponsored by the Friends of the Agawam Library, and is open to all adult learners who are looking to improve their English in the areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing. This course will cover grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation and various aspects of conversational English.

Giselle Rose-Burroughs, the instructor, is a former Berlitz languages instructor with extensive experience as an American English language coach. A native of Latin America, she is fluent in Spanish and conversational Portuguese. She is a bilingual communications and publicity consultant and owner of Saphir Communications International.

These classes are free and open to the public. For further information or to register, contact Judy Clin at the library at 413-789-1550, ext. 8855, or email jclin@agawamlibrary.org.

Seats remains available for Jimmy Sturr Christmas Show

St. John's Travelers will host a bus trip to the Jimmy Sturr Christmas Show at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville, Conn. Special guests "The Four Aces" will also perform. Tickets are \$84 per person and include a family-style luncheon with mixed green salad, penne with sauce, turkey with stuffing and baked scrod.

For tickets and more information, call Emile Cote at 413-335-9440.

FAITH MATTERS

See the world with God

There are fundamental issues that are dividing our nation. These issues revolve around the way we see the world. Your worldview consists of a set of presuppositions that interfere with an impartial judgment. Often it cuts across even rational thought and common sense. We are inclined to see the world through our prejudice. Generally, there are two major worldviews; theistic view, which is the Greek word for "theos" meaning God, and a-theistic view, which places the prefix "a" before the word "theos," meaning no God.

Those who place their faith in God see Him as the Creator and sustainer of life. They see that the complex systems in our world are designed to work together and point to "intelligent design." The Scriptures declare that we were made in God's image. Those with faith desire an intimate relationship of trust and love which is based on faith. We are more comfortable with what we can touch and what seems logical to our culture, but God offers us an opportunity to live by faith. He is interested in this process — the development of our faith.

The atheistic worldview centers on natural cause and effect. Therefore, the atheistic worldview sees the greatest danger man faces is not a spiritual enemy, not our sinful nature, but global warming. The

atheist cannot see beyond the natural, and that presupposition leaves no room for faith, truth or morals. Any claim to absolute truth or absolute morals becomes merely your personal preference, and if you try to impose them on others, it's seen as hate speech and you are perceived as prejudicial.

Once our culture neglects the faith it was founded upon, America will lose its sense of direction. Today we care more about the rights of terrorists than their evil deeds done to others.

We think if we remove guns we will remove violence. The truth is when you remove God, you remove all restraint of evil.

Evil is not in the gun but in us. We must also realize that not all religions or theists (believers in God) are the same. The 9/11 attack taught us that those who say their god told them to fly planes into the Twin Towers to kill people were deceived. Like the flight of an off-centered golf ball, if your worldview is off-center, it will affect the direction you go and the thoughts you think. That's why faith in the One True God really does matter.

The Rev. Richard Adams is the senior pastor at Bethany Assembly of God on Main Street in Agawam.



Rev. Richard Adams

DEATH NOTICES

Butler, Eugene P.
Died Aug. 23
Funeral Sept. 9
Curran-Jones Funeral Home
Agawam

Johnson, Leonard A. III
Died Aug. 29
Private funeral
Agawam Funeral Home Inc.

Kirby, Janet L.
Died Aug. 25
Memorial service Sept. 10
Leete-Stevens Enfield
chapel
Enfield, Conn.

Ringer, Gloria A.
Died Aug. 31
Funeral Sept. 9
Colonial Forastiere Funeral
Home of Agawam

Shays, Richard W.
Died Aug. 29
Funeral Sept. 3
Westfield Funeral Home and
Cremation

Agawam Advertiser News

OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$75, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries

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Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

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LIONS ■ from page 1

Childhood Center and gets heavy use, but is small and outdated. Local Lions decided to bring it up to date as part of the Centennial Service Challenge, an initiative by Lions International for local clubs to take on special service projects in 2016, the Lions' 100th anniversary year.

"Lions International was asking all the clubs how they wanted to get involved in the community," said Agawam Lions Club secretary Dick Lanier, who chairs the club's Tot Lot Committee. "We became aware of the 2-to-5-year-old age group. They don't have much of a voice and could be better served. I introduced myself to the ECC Director Robin Fernandes and asked her where the need was, and she walked me right outside to the playground. We got in touch with [Parks and Recreation Director] Chris Sparks and learned that this playground is part of the five-year plan in town to modernize all playgrounds. Funds had not been approved and we wanted to come up with a lead donation to get that going."

Lanier said the playground is too small for its current level of use, which includes preschool children who attend the Perry Lane Nursery School, the Agawam Early Childhood Center, Preschool Summer Camp sponsored by Parks and Rec, and the general public. It has play structures almost 50 years old that do not meet modern safety standards. The playground also lacks Americans with Disabilities Act accessible equipment and there is no walkway from the parking lot to the playground for children or parents with disabilities.

"The utilization of the playground is tremendous during school hours," Lanier said. "The issue with the play space is that it that some of the structures go back to when this was used as a YMCA camp in the 1960s. It lacks proper equipment for children with disabilities. It is not big enough for several classes at once. Our goal is to modernize it and expand it."

He acknowledged that the town is planning to build a new ECC at a different site,

but said that proposal does not affect the need for an upgraded tot lot.

"The ECC having a new home is some ways off," Lanier said. "Everyone is aware of the inadequate facilities that the ECC works out of, but the situation spills outside, too. It's important to do, whether the ECC relocates or not, because we don't know what the building will be used for in the future. We know that there is a need for a new playground."

According to the Agawam Lions website, the project will include the replacement of certain playground structures and elements, installation of rubber surfacing, doubling the size of the playground and creating a sidewalk from the parking lot to the playground.

Lanier says that the tot lot fundraiser began in early June and will continue until the ground breaks on the new playground.

"The Agawam Lions Club established an initial fundraising goal of \$10,000 with a stretch goal of \$25,000," Lanier said late last month. "We just cleared \$4,000. We're getting donations that we haven't counted on. At this rate, we're doing very, very well."

Sparks says that it is too early to estimate the total cost of a new playground. He said Parks and Rec, and the town's Community Preservation Act funds, would contribute some of the money for the tot lot project. He said he would like to install the new equipment in late August of next year.

"We are trying to lessen the impact on children by doing this when they are not using the park," Sparks said. "Summer camps ended Aug. 19 this year, and school starts Sept. 8, so there is about a three-week period where there are less children than normal at the park."

Sparks stated that there are other playgrounds for the two- to five-year-old age group at other parks, including School Street Park and the equipment being built at Wade Park on Franklin Street, but getting new playground equipment at Perry Lane Park is part of the town's current five-year Open Space and Recreation Plan.

Lanier says that many individuals and

businesses have approached the Lions about providing donations for the playground. Susan Thibault, owner of the Ice Cream Shoppe in Feeding Hills, donated a portion of her sales (\$400) on July 24 and hosted another fundraiser Aug. 28. The Lions Club was able to raise approximately \$800 during the Aug. 2 National Night Out event. On Aug. 3, campers from the Perry Lane Summer Camp Penny Carnival surprised the Lions Club with a donation of about \$460. The Lions also collected funds with a tip jar at their food stands at the weekly SummerFest concert series over the summer, and will solicit donations again at their barbecue stand at the Big E later this month.

"The upcoming 17 days at the Big E is our largest fundraiser," Lanier said. "We help a lot of people and they remember us later on. We normally make about \$2,500 through tip jars."

The Agawam Lions Club is a local volunteer organization made up of approximately 75 members. The club was chartered in 1944 with the goal of serving the community. Over the past 72 years, the Agawam Lions Club has raised more than a million dollars for hundreds of groups, projects, charities, individuals, schools and civic

How to help

To donate to the Agawam Lions Club's campaign for the "tot lot" on Perry Lane, visit www.agawamlions.org/Donations.html and click on the orange "donate" box, which links to PayPal.

Checks may also be mailed to Agawam Lions Club, P.O. Box 52, Agawam, MA 01001.

The Lions Club is also hosting fundraisers all year for the project. A special tip jar at the Lions' barbecue chicken stand at the Big E will also support the tot lot project.

projects.

Lanier said the club raises almost \$40,000 a year, all of which is given away. He says that playground project will not affect the club's usual fundraising goals.

"This is quite an additional fundraising workload, because we are not taking away from the organizations that we normally support and contribute to," Lanier said.

ZONE ■ from page 1

is a dirt lot. Murphy's proposal was to place the entire property in a Business zone so that he can pave the whole parking lot.

He said he also will do more plantings and other landscaping to beautify the property.

But two neighbors say the zone change and improvements will not cure the noise issues coming from the bar late at night.

Dave Scott, a 91 Mill St. resident, said he has had to let his backyard shrubs and trees grow wild in an attempt to create a natural buffer to keep out the noise at night.

"The noise comes from the patrons who go outside to smoke, talk, and curse," Scott said. "I don't have central air in my home so I need to open my windows. But the noise is really bothersome until 1:30 a.m."

He said while Murphy is proposing to add arbor vitae to serve as a visual buffer, they will not solve the problem of noise and likely won't do anything improve the conditions he is dealing with. Councilor Christopher Johnson said he sympathized with the concerns of the residents, but the City Council is only concerned with the merits of the zone change. Issues over noise and what can be done should be reserved for the Planning Board's site plan review process. Both he and Councilor Gina Letellier encouraged

the residents to bring their concerns to the Planning Board when Murphy's site plan is reviewed later in September.

Councilor Donald Rheault defended Murphy and lauded his success.

"That business has been one of the most successful businesses that has gone at that corner," Rheault said. "He has done a really good job at that place and I think he will work with the residents to fix the noise issues."

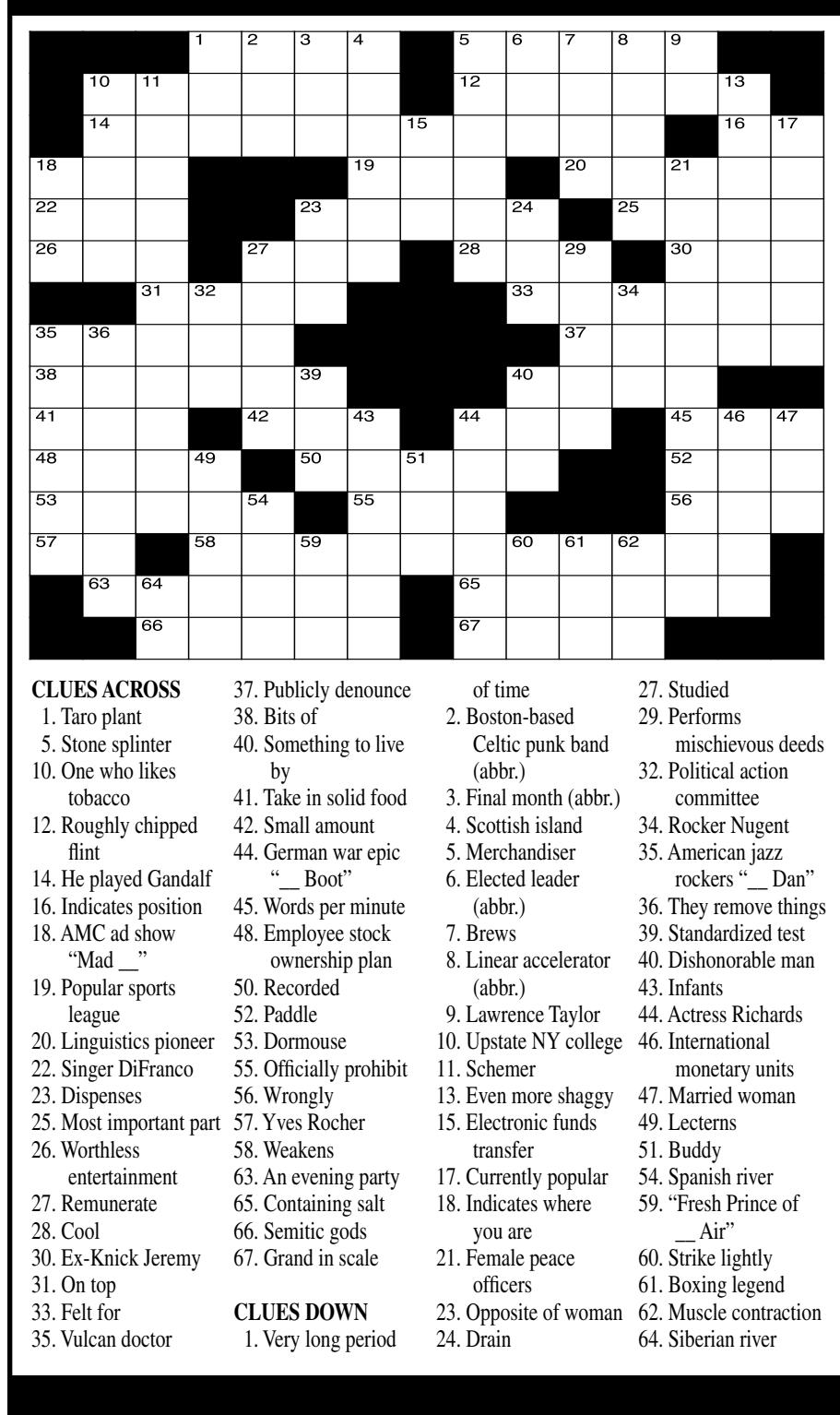
The Legislative Subcommittee chaired by Councilor Richard Theroux unanimously recommended the zone change, which was approved by 10 of the councilors. Councilor Robert Rossi abstained from the vote.

HAP hearing Oct. 3

In other council news, Council President James Cichetti set a public hearing date of Oct. 3 for the petition opposing HAP Housing's plans for an affordable housing development on Mill Street. Later in the meeting, Rossi made a suggestion that the hearing be delayed in order to afford town officials more time to do research relating to the suggestions made in the petition, including a potential land swap between the town-owned land at Tuckahoe Turf Farm and HAP's recently purchased 12.5 acres at 586 Mill St.

THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT DEPENDS ON YOU

SHOP, EAT & SPEND IN TOWN



Public Safety

POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 408 calls for service from Aug. 29 to Sept. 5. The department recorded three arrests in its public log. Those arrested will appear at a future date in Westfield District Court and are innocent until proven guilty.

Wednesday, Aug. 31

Mark A. Zello, 54, of Dogwood Lane, Agawam, was arrested on a charge of operating under the influence.

Thursday, Sept. 1

Amanda Dutton, 21, of School Street, Agawam, was arrested on two counts of assault and battery with a

dangerous weapon, armed robbery, and intimidating a witness.

Jeffrey McAdam, 21, of School Street, Agawam, was arrested on two counts of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, armed robbery, and intimidating a witness.

FIRE LOG

Fire logs were not received from the Agawam Fire Department this week. Last week's entries will be printed in a future edition of the Agawam Advertiser News.

Emergency preparedness urged in Sept.

Agawam Emergency Management Director Chet Nicora last week echoed Gov. Charlie Baker's advice to all Massachusetts residents to prepare now for natural disasters and other types of emergencies.

Baker proclaimed September to be "Emergency Preparedness Month." Throughout the month, state agencies such as the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency will focus on four preparedness themes: be informed, develop a plan, build a kit, and get involved.

"Before the next disaster strikes, learn how to receive emergency alerts and critical information, take time to build emergency plans and kits, and get involved in community efforts to build resilience," said MEMA Director Kurt Schwartz. "Preparedness reduces casualties, property damage and the economic impact of disasters, and speeds up recovery."

All Massachusetts residents are encour-

aged to participate in citizen preparedness activities and to enhance preparedness by using the resources at www.mass.gov/mema. Residents may also visit that site for information about MEMA and hurricane preparedness. MEMA also provides updates on social media at twitter.com/MassEMA and facebook.com/MassachusettsEMA. Residents can also receive information on their smartphone, including severe weather alerts from the National Weather Service and emergency information from MEMA, by downloading the Massachusetts Alerts free app; see www.mass.gov/mema/mobileapp.

Agawam Emergency Management provides social media alerts at facebook.com/AgawamEM and twitter.com/AgawamEM; and a hotline for emergency alerts at 413-726-9750. To contact Agawam Emergency Management, call 413-786-0400, ext. 8925.

Mt. Carmel to host Taste of Italy

SPRINGFIELD — The Taste of Italy festival at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish will take place Saturday, Oct. 1, from 4:30 to 8 p.m. at 36 Margaret St., Springfield. This celebration on the first day of Italian Heritage Month will begin with Mass in the church on William Street at 4 p.m. There is no entrance fee; parking is free. Food tickets will be sold.

Over 40 favorite Italian main and side dishes and desserts will be offered. Recipes from different regions of Italy will reflect the church's unique heritage.

Participating businesses include La Fiorentina, Frigo Foods Inc., Milano Imports, Mom & Rico's, Monte Carlo Restaurant, Partner's Restaurant, Primo's Pizzeria, Salvatore's Restaurant, and

Storowton Tavern, Typical Sicilian Restaurant.

A dessert table will feature special pastries and Italian ice as well as espresso and cappuccino from La Fiorentina, Anna and Leo Daniele. A pastry table (pasta dolce) will be available from the Women's Guild, the St. Vincent DePaul Society and La Fiorentina. Coffee and soft drinks will also be available.

Food tickets will be sold at the door. Everyone will be able to select which Italian "tastes" they prefer to purchase. Food can be enjoyed at the Taste, or will be available for purchase to take home.

For entertainment, there will be Italian music. A grand raffle and a 50-50 raffle will take place at 7:30 p.m. Proceeds from the event are designated for Our Lady of Mount Carmel projects.

Firehouse Museum will be open Sept. 11

The Agawam Historical and Firehouse Museum at 35 Elm St. will be open Sunday, Sept. 11, from 1 to 4 p.m. and will feature a special exhibit celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Eastern States Exhibition. For more information, visit www.agawam-historicalassoc.webs.com or follow it on Facebook.

Class of '91 to hold reunion

The Agawam High Class of 1991 will be hold its 25th reunion from 6 to 10 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 26, at the Shortstop Bar and Grill, 99 Springfield Road, Westfield. Cost is \$35, which includes a buffet dinner, cash bar, music and raffles.

Payment, which must be made no later than Nov. 15, may be mailed to AHS Class of 1991, P.O. Box 1472, Westfield, MA 01086. Checks should be payable to "Agawam High School Class of 1991."

E-ZPass signups to be taken in Southwick

SOUTHWICK — State Sen. Don Humason and state Rep. Nick Boldyga will host an E-ZPass distribution event on Friday, Sept. 16, at the Southwick Town Hall. Like last month's signup at the Agawam Public Library, this event will allow local drivers to enroll easily in the electronic road tolling system.

"With all-electronic tolling set to begin this fall, it is of utmost importance that drivers are able to take steps to prepare for changes in a convenient and timely way," said Humason. "I appreciate MassDOT working with us to assist local residents with the E-ZPass program, and I'd like to thank the town of Southwick for hosting us."

The event will be hosted at the Southwick Town Hall in the first floor auditorium from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sept. 16 and is open to drivers from any town. Town Hall is at 454 College Highway, Southwick.

"I am happy that we were able to get a transponder sign-up event here in Southwick. It is important that residents be given ample opportunities to sign up for an EZ-Pass transponder before they are required," said Boldyga. "I hope that all resi-



E-ZPass transponders were in high demand at a signup day in Agawam last month. FILE PHOTO

dents will take advantage of this event."

To enroll in the program, residents must provide photo identification, motor vehicle registration and \$20 by either check or credit card. The transponder is free.

Humason represents Agawam, Southwick and 10 other communities in the state Senate. Boldyga represents Agawam, Southwick and Granville in the state House.

Forum on memory loss free to all

WEST SPRINGFIELD — The public is invited to attend Landmark at Monastery Heights' Alzheimer's and Dementia Forum on Thursday, Sept. 15, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. A diverse panel of local professionals will share their expertise on memory loss.

Panelists will present on a wide variety of topics from obtaining a diagnosis, personal care options and financial possibilities.

The event is free. Landmark at Monastery Heights Senior Living Community is at 110 Monastery Ave., West Springfield.

Diabetes classes begin Sept. 13

Bethany Assembly of God is partnering with Faith Community Nursing to hold a six-week series on pre-diabetes awareness. Guests will include a medical doctor, a registered dietitian and representatives from the YMCA, as well as a local food market.

These classes will define pre-diabetes as well as explain the risk factors, which lab tests need to be monitored and to will offer support.

Classes begin the week of Sept. 13. Morning classes are each Tuesday at 11 a.m. and evening classes will be Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at Bethany Assembly of God, 580 Main St., Agawam, in room 101.

Classes are free, but registration is required by calling Bethany at 413-789-2930 any time from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Chamber hosts networking event Oct. 5

WEST SPRINGFIELD — The West of the River Chamber of Commerce will present "Wicked Wednesday" from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 5, at Cyber Exchange, 267 Riverdale St., West Springfield.

Wicked Wednesdays are monthly social events, hosted by various businesses and

restaurants, bringing members and non-members together to social network in a relaxed atmosphere.

For more information contact the Chamber at 413-426-3880 or info@westoftheriverchamber.com.

TOWN OF AGAWAM

The Town of Agawam is actively seeking applicants for seasonal grounds work and golf shop attendants at the Agawam Municipal Golf Course. Applicants must be 18 years old and be available to work a flexible schedule including early mornings and weekends. Applications are available in the Personnel Office, 36 Main St., Agawam, MA Monday-Friday 8:30-4:30.

The Town of Agawam is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

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Youth

Summer's back pages



July 12: Family concert with Davis Bates and Roger Tinckell. SUBMITTED PHOTOS



July 26: "Eat to Win" cooking demonstration hosted by Liz Barbour.



July 21: Balloon workshop with Ed the Wizard.

The Agawam Public Library held several events this summer as part of the Summer Reading Program for children. Here is a look back at snapshots from a few of them.



July 28: Traveling Shoes storytelling for all ages with Rona Leventhal.

FROM THE CHILDREN'S ROOM

Back to School

It's that time of year again. The weather is starting to cool, and kids are going back to school. There are so many exciting learning opportunities that await students and teachers this coming year and the Agawam Public Library is here to help you on your journey of discovery. The library is constantly adding new resources and programs so you never know what you'll discover at the library.

Students are encouraged to start their own path of discovery by getting their own library cards and beginning to foster their sense of personal responsibility. Library cards can be used to check out a multitude of items, including books, audiobooks, movies, music and video games. The Agawam Public Library is part of a large group of libraries called C/WMARS. Through this partnership we can order books from other libraries. This sharing of resources opens up thousands of different materials all at no additional cost to the public.

Once in a while, even the best students need a break from studying. When you need a break from studying, you can attend one of the programs that will be held at the library. The Children's Room at the library hosts many different programs for kids of all ages, from birth through grade 12. We will have book clubs for all different ages, Block Parties where students compete in engineering challenges using Lego blocks, and so much more. To learn more about our different programs, visit www.agawamlibrary.org.

Teachers are also on an exciting path of discovery and we have materials to help them as well. In the Children's Room of the library there is a Teacher Resource section.



Pamela Weingart

Here, teachers can find books that can assist them in successfully reaching students with all different learning styles. We also have a large number of Discovery Kits that come with an assortment of items based on different themes. The themes range from American Artists all the way to yoga. Each kit comes with books and manipulatives that will enhance a student's understanding of the chosen theme. The Discovery Kits are available to be checked out by anyone, including teachers, homeschool teachers, parents, and caregivers.

Also, teachers in the Agawam school system are reminded that the library is here to help them in any way we can. We'd be willing to bring books to the classroom, teach classes how to use our databases, or help locate necessary items to enhance the students' learning environment. Speaking of learning environment, we also have an Ellison shape cutter that is available for use by the public at no charge; you just have to bring your own paper. This shape cutter can be used to quickly and easily cut paper into a variety of shapes. These shapes can be used to decorate bulletin boards, make nametags, or even greeting cards.

So, no matter where you are on your path of discovery the Agawam Public Library is sure to have something for you. Feel free to check our website, www.agawamlibrary.org, call 413-789-1550, ext. 3, or email pweingart@agawamlibrary.org if you have any questions. I hope to see you soon at the library.

Pamela Weingart is the youth services librarian at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St., Agawam.



June 24: Family-oriented "Magic with Scott Jameson."



June 30: Improv with the Phantom Sheep Players.

Record-breaking run



On Tuesday, Aug. 30, Michael DiLizia broke the record for the boys' five-year-old division at the Richard W. Childs Sr. 2.4 mile race held at Van Horn Park in Springfield. The previous record was 19 minutes, 52 seconds, set in 2007. Michael set a new record with a time of 19:50. A resident of Feeding Hills, Michael will be starting kindergarten this month at Clifford Granger School. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Teen coloring, Legos at library next week

The Agawam Public Library is offering the following programs for students in grades 5 through 12. To register, visit www.agawamlibrary.org, call 413-789-1550, ext. 3, or go to the library at 750 Cooper St., Agawam.

Thursday, Sept. 13: 4 p.m., Candy and Coloring for students in grades 5 to 12. Students are invited to take some time out their busy schedule to relax, color and eat candy. Registration is required.

Friday, Sept. 16 and Oct. 7: 4:30 p.m., Block Party for students in grades 5 to 8. Participants will compete in engineering challenges using Lego Blocks and are invited to come to one meeting or both. Registration is required for each date.

Thursday, Sept. 22: 4:30 p.m., Cover to Cover Book Club for students in grades 5 to 8 includes a discussion and activities based on the book, "City of Ember" by Jeanne DuPrau. Copies of the book will be available to check out of the library. Registration is required.

Thursday, Sept. 29 and Oct. 27: 4 p.m., Teen Advisory Board for students in grades 9 to 12 gives teens an opportunity to make a difference at the library and in their community. Drop in. Registration not required.

Tuesday, Oct. 11: 2:30 p.m., Pizza, Pizza! for students in grades 9 to 12. A taste testing of pizza from three local pizza places. Registration is required.

Wednesday, Oct. 19: 6 p.m., Halloween Painting Party for students in grades 5 to 8. Come paint a fun Halloween scene. All materials will be provided. Registration is required.

To see a full list of programs for students in grades 5 to 12, visit www.agawamlibrary.org/teens/. Follow the library on Facebook at Facebook.com/agawamlibraryteens. For more information, call 413-789-1550, ext. 3.

Small businessman



Feeding Hills youngster Daniel Horner, second from left, has been researching business development and writing a business plan since January. The culmination of his hard work was "Dan's Lemonade Stand," which opened Sept. 2 on Parkedge Drive. Lou Scherpa, left, Dan's grandfather, and area neighbors were among his first customers. SUBMITTED PHOTO

School Lunch

The Agawam High School lunch menu is posted on the school's website.

AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL ROBERTA G. DOERING SCHOOL AGAWAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Monday, Sept. 12: Hamburger on a roll, lettuce and tomato, smiley fries, seasoned carrots, assorted fruit.

Tuesday, Sept. 13: French toast sticks, cheese omelet, hash brown, strawberry cup, orange juice.

Wednesday, Sept. 14: Assorted calzones with marinara, fresh green beans, orange smiles.

Thursday, Sept. 15: Turkey and cheese on a roll, low-fat potato chips, chickpea salad, baked cinnamon apples.

Friday, Sept. 16: French bread pizza, garden tossed salad, cookie, locally sourced apples, assorted chilled fruit.

Dance champs again



The Academy Starz of the Academy of Artistic Performance Dance Studio traveled to the University of Notre Dame this summer and took home their third consecutive team national championship. Over 5,000 people competed in the competition. Pictured from left to right are, back row, Emily Seng, Jamie-Lyn Cavallon, Mollie Dion, Kayla Rufo, Haily Mereschuk and Carly Liquori. Front row, Marissa Rufo and Ashley Seng. The Academy of Artistic Performance Dance Studio is at 1226 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. SUBMITTED PHOTO

PEOPLE/MILESTONE NEWS

As a free service for our readers, we will print all births, weddings, engagements, milestone anniversaries, major birthdays, military achievements, honors and awards. We have a "people news" form available for you to submit these listings. This material is provided to us by our readers and local institutions and we do not charge to print this content.

For more information, or to submit people or milestone news for Agawam Advertiser News, please email mballway@turley.com.

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Sedona & Loft Collections Shown

BRIDGE | from page 1

lane for both intersections, splitting near the middle of the bridge.

One commenter at the design hearing suggested the left turn lane was only needed in the southern direction, going to Agawam, as the intersection on the West Springfield side, Memorial Avenue at River Road, is less complicated.

The intersection at the Agawam side of the bridge will be substantially widened, potentially requiring land takings on both sides of Springfield and Suffield streets, and on the south side of Main Street. Travelers on the bridge and on Main Street would form three lanes, one each for straight, left-turning and right-turning traffic. Traffic from Springfield Street have two left-turn lanes to enter the bridge. Traffic from Suffield Street would have one left-turn lane to enter Springfield Street.

The state is rebuilding two intersections in Agawam as part of the project. In addition to the crossroad at the bridge, state roadwork will follow Springfield Street to the next set of traffic lights, at Walnut Street and Walnut Street Extension. That intersection will be widened and include new signals and dedicated left-turn lanes in all four directions.

Additionally, plans show a two-lane bike path starting at Walnut Street Extension, bordering the south side of Springfield Street, crossing Suffield and Main streets and continuing over the bridge on the eastern side.

Ramirez said he expects the project will break ground in fiscal 2018, the year that begins July 1, 2017. It had originally been slated to begin this summer.

He said construction will cease during the 17 days of the Eastern States Exposition every year, so traffic will be able to

get through for the event. He did not say how many lanes would be open during the event.

Dan McCormick, another member of the project team, acknowledged there will likely be issues throughout the construction period.

"This is a challenging area to do a project," he said. "And we only have so much area, so there are a lot of constraints to what we are working with for this project. We are going to do the best we can."

One Agawam resident, Nick LaPointe, said he is hoping the design team will work to maintain the plantings with flowers that are currently along the bridge. He said people have worked hard to maintain them and they beautify the area.

"I would also like to see other landscaping improvements in the project," said he added.

Another resident, Richard Bennett, asked about what light fixtures will be used to brighten the bridge, so it is safe to walk in the area at night.

Town officials in Agawam have been pushing for the bridge to be rebuilt for many years. Agawam Mayor Richard Cohen even called the project "years in the making."

A few years ago, when Hard Rock International had proposed building a casino at the exposition grounds, the company offered to rebuild the bridge itself. West Springfield voters rejected the casino project, however, and MGM ended up securing a license to build a casino in Springfield's South End. Mitigation payments from MGM are being used to make improvements to Memorial Avenue in West Springfield, which connects the Morgan-Sullivan Bridge with the Memorial Bridge and downtown Springfield.



ABOVE: Traffic waiting to go straight on Suffield Street or turn left onto Main Street backs up over the Morgan-Sullivan Bridge in Agawam around noon on Tuesday. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

RIGHT: The Route 147 bridge over the Westfield River dating from the 1940s will be replaced over the course of three years starting in 2017. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY



Plans for the reconstruction of the Morgan-Sullivan Bridge include dedicated left-turn lanes on the bridge and all three Agawam streets leading to it. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



The intersection of Springfield and Walnut streets in Agawam will also be rebuilt as part of the bridge project. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

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Ready for some football



Quarterback Noah Jodoin takes the snap for the juniors team at opening day for Agawam Youth Football on Sunday. The Agawam Warriors hosted West Springfield youth teams at Kirk Parker Field. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Daniel Erickson takes the handoff for the juniors.



Ivan Shpak rushes the West Springfield line during the pee-wee game.



Brandon Ritchie goes for the tackle during the pee-wee game.



Vincenzo Liquori makes a run to the right side for the pee-wees.



Cole Ingham takes a run for the pee-wee Warriors.

Meet Your Agawam Team:
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SPORTS

GIRLS SOCCER

Experienced Brownies ready to contend for a title

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – The Agawam High School girls soccer team had a strong finish to their regular season when they qualified for the tournament with a .500 record.

After falling behind early, the Brownies exceeded expectations and made it past Amherst Regional and won a rematch with Minnechaug Regional in the quarterfinals, a team that had shut them out earlier in the year.

Agawam would go to the limit with the Falcons, tying 2-2 in the second half before dropping a 3-2 decision to the Falcons.

This season, Agawam is returning to the field with a large group of seniors led by Sarah Carron and Allyson Dubiel on offense. Joining them is Alyssa Montagna, a junior who was pulled up to the varsity as a freshman and contributed immediately as a scorer.

Montagna and Dubiel scored Agawam's two goals against Minnechaug in the playoff last year.



The Agawam High School girls soccer team scrimmaged against South Hadley last Thursday evening at South Hadley High School on their new turf field. The Brownies opened up the season earlier this week. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



GIRLS SOCCER | page 14



FOOTBALL

Re-tooled Brownies set to battle for another crown

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – The Agawam High School football team will take the field on Friday night for the first time in 2016 and while they will do so with a lot of new faces, those faces are no more than a group of simply re-tooled Brownies.

Coach John Benjamin said while his quarterback, several running backs, and a number of linemen graduated last year, he is bringing back a number of players who got experience last year, and more players who he believes has an opportunity to make an immediate impact on the field.

"It's really about building the entire pro-

gram and what we have been trying to do with our players," said Benjamin. "We want to make sure that if a player gets hurt, that we have another player ready to take their place so we do not miss a beat."

He said that mentality has been the key to Agawam's success during the past couple of years under his tenure.

This season, he will bring Michael Basile under center. He said Basile has taken a few snaps in a game, but has been practicing as a secondary quarterback for the past two years.

"We believe he is ready for this," said Benjamin. "He has great instincts, a good

BOYS SOCCER

Finalist Brownies have deep program

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – It has been a steady progression for the Agawam High School boys soccer team and their talented and deep roster. After going through the first two weeks of the preseason, coach Tom Smith has chosen his squad from the 75 players that tried out and the Brownies will take the field tonight when they open up the season against rival Ludlow on the road at 6 p.m.

The Brownies do bring back a number of returners from last year's squad that went 11-3-4 during the regular season and had a great run to the Western Massachusetts Division I Championship game, where they played 100 scoreless minutes of soccer before falling in the penalty kick phase against

league rival Longmeadow, a team they had defeated twice in the regular season.

While Agawam did not have issues scoring goals in the regular season against the Lancers, Longmeadow managed to find an answer on defense and held the Brownies scoreless in a very physical final.

Last year, offense and a strong defense helped carry Agawam through the first half of the season. Agawam went undefeated in September, going 4-0-3 before dropping their first decision on Oct. 1. They also excelled in their league, going 4-2-2.

Returning to the team is Luis Nieves, who provides a huge offensive spark in the midfield. Gino Tedeschi, Zachary Rivers, and Nick Malerba will also get their opportunities to provide some offense.

FOOTBALL | page 14

BOYS SOCCER | page 14

Sports

ThinkTaylor Partners with MIAA on Concussion Awareness Week 2016

BOSTON – ThinkTaylor and the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association are proud to announce their partnership for a second year in a row on Concussion Awareness Week from Monday, Sept. 12, to Friday, Sept. 16, with support from new partners, the Concussion Legacy Foundation and the Massachusetts Concussion Management Coalition.

Throughout the week, over 86,000 student-athletes from various sports teams throughout high schools in Massachusetts will feature ThinkTaylor wrist bands, concussion awareness (#TTpledge) bag tags for players and more to remind themselves and others about the dangers of not reporting a concussion. The ThinkTaylor team will make appearances at select schools as well, in addition to hosting Concussion Awareness Night during the New England Revolution vs. Colorado Rapids game at Gillette Stadium on Saturday, Sept. 3.

"It is imperative we educate athletes, parents, coaches and athletic directors about concussion education and awareness, along with traumatic brain injuries that can happen as a result, at the youth level," said ThinkTaylor founder Taylor Twellman. "We launched Concussion Awareness Week last year with the MIAA for that very reason. Through our partnership with them, and help from the Concussion Legacy Foundation and MCMC this year, we've been able to expand on last year's inaugural efforts and impact more and more students throughout the state of

Massachusetts to hold each other accountable in observing the established concussion protocol."

The Concussion Legacy Foundation will also host Team Up Day: an educational program designed to help better identify concussions by encouraging athletes to "Team Up: Speak Up" to fight concussions. Coaches across the country have pledged that on Tuesday, Sept. 13, they will give their team a speech emphasizing that teammates look out for one another, and should speak up if they see a teammate who may have suffered a concussion.

"The MIAA is once again pleased to partner with ThinkTaylor to help educate and inform all student-athletes about concussion," said MIAA Associate Executive Director Richard Pearson. "The ThinkTaylor/MIAA Concussion Awareness Week is an outstanding vehicle to bring focused attention to this very important topic. The #TTpledge focusing on students being educated, honest and supportive is a profound and pointed objective for all."

ThinkTaylor is also asking for everyone to take the #TTpledge online at thinktaylor.org, encouraging them to post photos and videos online showing their support and pledging to be educated on the signs and symptoms on concussions; pledging to be honest with his or her coaches, teachers, parents and teammates; and pledging to be supportive of anyone who gets a concussion.

Tournament to raise awareness for drug addiction set for next month

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – On Oct. 8, Agawam Municipal Golf Course will host a tournament aimed at helping create awareness for drug addiction in memory of a multi-sport athlete from Agawam High School.

Tracy Wilkie said her son Shane passed away in November 2014 from drug addiction.

Since then, she established Shane's Foundation, and spends time in the Agawam Public School raising awareness for drug and alcohol addiction.

She has had a couple of fundraisers, and is organizing a golf tournament to raise more funds for more programs.

The tournament will be held at the municipal course on Saturday, Oct. 8 with a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start.

Like most charity tournaments, it will be a scramble format with foursomes utilizing the best hit ball to move play along.

"We are hoping this golf tournament will be able to bring in a lot of money for the foundation and provide a good time in Shane's memory," said Wilkie.

She said her son was a promising young man who played football, baseball, and basketball for Agawam High School before he graduated in 2011. He struggled with addiction to drugs, which negatively affected her family, including her other son, who is 13 years old.

"I started the foundation and raise awareness for drug addictions because I know what my family went through, and what my son went through having to bury his brother," she said. "I do not want other families to have to go through that. I want to raise as much money as I can and reach more kids."

She has recently reached out to former NBA player Chris Herren, who played for the Boston Celtics. Herren was unable to continue his career due to a major drug addiction, and has spent the last few years going around to schools all over the region talking to students about drug addiction. His foundation has done many project to raise awareness, including Project Purple.

Wilkie said she hopes some funds raised from golf tournament, will be used to help Herren's initiatives.

She said Herren is going to make two appearances at Agawam High School in the future, and will also speak at Agawam Junior High School to the seventh and eighth grades.

Wilkie said she is still in need of more golfers and more sponsors for the event.

"We need any and all donations we can get, as well as raffle prizes," said Wilkie.

To get involved in the tournament, contact Wilkie at tjsbwilk@gmail.com. To participate in the tournament, it is \$100 for a golfer and includes greens fee, cart, lunch, and dinner. Men, women, and mixed foursomes are encouraged to sign up.

Brownies ready to build on '15



After failing to make the playoffs last year, the Agawam High School field hockey team returned to prominence, qualifying for the tournament with a 10-5-3 record. The Brownies had a tough draw to open the tournament, losing to Minnechaug 2-0. The Brownies will be coached by Karen Gomez, who came over from Westfield last year to take the helm. Agawam will open the regular season against Gomez's former team, the Bombers, today at 5:30 p.m. The Brownies have their first home game Tuesday against Minnechaug at 4 p.m. The Brownies are shown here in preseason workouts at Shea Park.



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Sports

Annual HCC Foundation Golf Classic set

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College will hold its 29th annual fundraising golf tournament Monday, Sept. 12, at Springfield County Club in West Springfield.

Proceeds from the annual tournament support student scholarships and academic equipment purchases through the HCC Foundation, the nonprofit fundraising arm of Holyoke Community College.

The program begins with a buffet lunch followed by a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start. The \$185 fee includes greens fees, golf cart, lunch, dinner, and refreshments on the course.

After a great afternoon of golf, enjoy cocktails on the clubhouse porch and a

fabulous dinner, where participants will have the opportunity to enter raffles and bid on dozens of silent auction items including vacation packages, Disney passes, Bruins and Red Sox tickets, and restaurant gift certificates.

Arrange your own foursome or sign up as a single.

Over 28 years, the annual HCC Foundation Golf Classic has raised more than \$450,000 for HCC scholarships and educational technology for HCC classrooms. To register or sponsor the golf tournament, please go to www.hcc.edu/golf

For more information, please contact: Keith McKittrick: (413) 552-2746 or kmckittrick@hcc.edu.

GOLF CALENDAR

Rick's Place Classic set for Sept. 17

WILBRAHAM – On Saturday, Sept. 17 is the 15th annual Rick's Place Golf Classic (formerly the Rick Thorpe Memorial Golf Tournament) at the Country Club of Wilbraham at 859 Stony Hill Road.

We've ordered up another gorgeous day so all you have to do is play golf.

All proceeds to benefit Rick's Place, Inc. where grieving young people and their families meet others to do activities, projects and games meant to support their grief process.

Please print all forms and mail to Bill Scatolini at 85 Post Office Park Wilbraham, MA 01095.

Agawam High School Athletics to host 22nd Annual Golf Tournament in September

AGAWAM - The Agawam High School Athletic Department invites the public to save the date and participate in its 22nd annual golf tournament to be held Saturday, Sept. 24, at Oak Ridge Country Club.

This tournament raises money to help support the athletes and coaches of the Agawam High School programs. Student athletes do not pay fees at Agawam High School as some do in other communities. Please join us for an enjoyable day and support a good cause.

If you would like to participate as a ma-

yor sponsor, golfer or tee sponsor, or donate a raffle prize, please contact Dave Stratton in the Athletic Office at 413-821-0529 or at dstratton@agawampublicschools.org.

Inaugural Cory J. Gawacki Foundation Tournament

CHICOPEE – The inaugural Cory J. Gawacki Foundation Live to Give Tournament will take place on Sunday, Sept. 28 at Chicopee Country Club.

The tournament will begin with a shotgun start at 1 p.m.

Registration begins at 11:30 a.m., followed by lunch at 12 p.m.

Dinner will be held following the tournament.

The cost is \$125 per person or \$500 for a foursome.

There are four levels of sponsorship available as well: Eagle (\$2,000), Birdie (\$1,500), Tee Gift (\$1,750) and Tee (\$100).

Please make checks payable to: Cory J. Gawacki Foundation.

Send registration to Theresa Scully, P.O. Box 484, East Longmeadow, MA 01028.

Send us your golf tournament information. Contact Sports Editor Dave Forbes at 413-283-8393 ext. 237 or send an e-mail to dforbes@turley.com.

ley has shown great skill early on and will play midfield.

In goal, Agawam graduated Jenna Beach last year. This season, Erin Berthiaume will get a chance to start after not seeing much time last year. Also, Caitlin Normoyle may also get a chance to show what she can do, Ramos said.

"Both have strengths in goal and it should be interesting as we finish the pre-season," said Ramos.

Agawam's league schedule will consist of Westfield, Longmeadow, Chicopee Comprehensive and Northampton this year. The Brownies will meet their first league opponent, Westfield, on Tuesday afternoon.

Coming up tomorrow, Agawam will have a tough independent opponent as they go up against the reigning and defending Western Massachusetts Division III Champion, Granby. The Brownies opened up the regular season against the team they defeated for that title, Southwick, on Wednesday.

GIRLS SOCCER ■ from page 12

Minnechaug was the eventual sectional champion.

Coach Laura Wray-Ramos said she is very optimistic for the 2016 season and believes the experienced Brownies are a top contender for the title this season.

"I think we have the ability to score and a lot of experience returning to the team this year," said Ramos.

On defense, Katie Grasso is a senior and is the top returner for the Brownies. Molly Breton, Jessica Bonfiglio, Sierra Kruser, Rayna Ramirez, and Bailey Laviollette are all listed on defense this year.

Allie Wysocki, Caitlyn Shean, and Taylor DeGeorge are listed as midfielders on the roster this year.

Ramos said she is looking forward to seeing two others on the field, Mary Kate Wysocki and Mia Kelley.

Both are freshmen and showed enough in the preseason that Ramos decided to bring them straight to the varsity. Wysocki is a forward and has a lot of speed, and Kel-

ley has shown great skill early on and will play midfield.

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FOOTBALL ■ from page 12

arm, and knows has to run this offense."

Chris Morassi is the main returning running back. Morassi had a great year as a junior, taking a lot of the runs with the Brownies offense, which scored a lot of touchdowns, notching about 40 points per game last year.

Joining him will be Anthony Adams, a junior, and then Jared Durocher, a sophomore. Others will be mixed in as the year goes on.

The offensive line will include Spencer Kozlak, one the strongest players Benjamin has seen, along with Zach Hodges, Jack Pouliot, and Joe Stevens, a nose tackle who Benjamin believes will also make a lot of noise. Those players will also spend time on the defensive line.

Also on defense, Reuben Thomas and Morassi will serve as cornerbacks while A.J. Salvias will play safety.

Ryan White is a junior and will be the backup quarterback.

Returning as the kicker will be Aiden Page, a junior. With the amount of scoring Agawam did last year, Benjamin said Page had a lot of opportunities to develop his

kicking skills. He did very well.

Benjamin said he is very excited about the upcoming schedule this year. He believes Agawam has the ability to compete, and with the progression of his programming, he says the new starters are simply a re-tooling of last year's squad, and that his team will be in games this year.

"We're really excited," said Benjamin. "We are back in the AA Conference, which is where we have always been. It was strange being in the Suburban. We're also playing some different teams we have not seen in a while."

He said Friday's game against East Longmeadow should be a fun matchup.

"They have some speed and lost some key players like we did last year," said Benjamin. "Should be a fun first game."

Agawam is back in Division 2 this and the AA after spending three years in the Suburban Conference with three straight titles and three straight appearances in the Division 4 title game.

Agawam plays at East Longmeadow on Friday, Sept. 9 at 7 p.m., then meets Westfield in Week 2 on Sept. 16 at 7 p.m. at Bullets Field.

BOYS SOCCER ■ from page 12

Dan Korotich and Thomas Hendrickson are among seniors on the team that will play on defense. Korotich was the leader on defense last year and provided power and size for the back line to back up the goalkeeper.

After graduating two goalies last year, Smith has tapped Ben Mielnikowski and Frank Dejkus to make the varsity roster as goalies. Mielnikowski is a sophomore while Dejkus is a senior this year.

The Brownies will continue having a difficult schedule from beginning to end, with

one of the strongest leagues in the region with Belchertown, Ludlow, West Springfield, and last year's champion Longmeadow. Smith said West Springfield, which beat Agawam in the playoffs two years ago, will be better with bigger numbers this season.

Agawam did excel in the independent circuit, losing just one game during the regular season. The Brownies will have a scattered schedule early on, with Ludlow followed by Longmeadow, then independent games against Central, Chicopee Comprehensive, and Minnechaug to follow. Agawam closes the regular season with three straight league games.

Legals

AGAWAM ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT August 17, 2016

Notice is hereby given that the Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing at the Agawam Public Library, Community Room, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA on **Monday, September 26, 2016 at 7PM** for all parties interested in the appeal of Celco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless, which is seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Section 180-96 of the Town of Agawam's Zoning Ordinances to allow for the construction of a telecommunications wireless service facility at the premises identified as 1623 Main Street.

Doreen Prouty Chairperson
Agawam Board of Appeals
9/8/15/16

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Division

50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-8600

Docket No. H16P1472EA

Estate of: Lillian Hubert Cahill

Also Known As: Lillian Hubert

Date of Death: March 15, 2016

INFORMAL PROBATE

9/8/16

PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Diane M Mango-Cahill** of Williamsburg MA, a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

HOW TO SUBMIT LEGAL NOTICES

All legal notices to be published in the *Agawam Advertiser News* should be sent directly to klanier@turley.com. Karen Lanier processes all legal notices for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspaper and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Karen directly at 413-283-8393 x235.

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Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

Out & About

OUR CALENDAR SECTION is intended to promote free events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at aan@turley.com, fax to 413-786-8457, or mail to 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.

Friday, Sept. 9

THE AGAWAM CULTURAL COUNCIL'S APPLAUSE SERIES begins its 13th season with the live-action radio drama, "Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Speckled Band" at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. It is free and open to the public.

Saturday, Sept. 10

THE POLISH AMERICAN CLUB OF AGAWAM "Country Feast" featuring Truck Stop Troubadours starts at 5 p.m. Dancing, a 50-50 raffle, a buffet and cash bar. Tickets, \$20 per person, available at the clubhouse bar during business hours, and on its Facebook page. Limited amount for sale at the door.

COMMUNITY DAYS ON THE GREEN is open to the public and will include food, entertainment, a bounce house and raffles from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Southwick Congregational Church, 488 College Highway. The event is sponsored jointly by Southwick Congregational Church and Boy Scout Troop 114.

FRIENDS OF THE SOUTHWICK SENIOR CENTER ANTIQUE AND VINTAGE CAR SHOW from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event will take place at 2 Industrial Road, off Route 10-202 on the road to the Southwick Transfer Station.

Sunday, Sept. 11

A SEPT. 11 REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY will take place at 9:30 a.m. in front of the Agawam Fire Department Headquarters at 800 Main St.

THE AGAWAM HISTORICAL AND FIREHOUSE MUSEUM at 35 Elm St. will be open from 1 to 4 p.m. and will feature a special exhibit celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Eastern States Exhibition. For more information, visit www.agawamhistoricalassoc.webs.com or follow it on Facebook.

THE WEST SPRINGFIELD COIN CLUB will meet at 7 p.m. in the Church of the Good Shepherd, 214 Elm St., West Springfield. A special coin topic will be presented and discussed. Refreshments available. Guests welcome. For more information, call Peter Setian at 413-789-2061.

Monday, Sept. 12

A BOOK SIGNING BY AGAWAM RESIDENT DAVID CECCHI will take place from 6-8 p.m. at the Captain Charles Leonard House, 663 Main St., Agawam. Copies of his latest book, "The Big E: Eastern States Exposition" will be available for purchase.

Tuesday, Sept. 13

THE OVATION SPEAKERS SERIES at Springfield Technical Community College begins with internationally renowned author Junot Diaz, at 11 a.m. in the Scibelli Hall (Building 2). Free and open to the public.

Wednesday, Sept. 14

SOUTHWICK ROTARY CLUB STEAK ROAST at the VFW Post 872, 151 Point Grove Road, Southwick, starting at 6 p.m. \$25 for adults and \$10 for children. Tickets may be purchased from Rotarians Bob Fox at 413-579-4585, Joe Deedy at 413-246-2277 or any member of the Southwick Rotary Club.

THE ELM-BELCHER MASONIC LODGE, 53 River St., Agawam offers an all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper at a cost of \$8 for adults, \$4 for children. The public is welcome.



Newspaper Rates

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Members of the Agawam Fire Department raise the American flag at the town's Sept. 11 memorial during last year's ceremony. FILE PHOTO

Town to hold Sept. 11 ceremony this Sunday

The town of Agawam will conduct a brief Sept. 11 remembrance ceremony Sunday, Sept. 11, at 9:30 a.m. in front of the Agawam Fire Department Headquarters at 800 Main St. The ceremony will honor those who lost their lives in the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

Among those scheduled to speak at the ceremony will be Agawam Fire Chief Alan Sirois; the Rev. Bill Hamilton, Agawam Fire Department chaplain; the Rev. Tim Reed, executive pastor at Bethany Assembly of God; and Mayor Richard Cohen.

Thursday, Sept. 15

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS AT THE QUADRANGLE will present "The Art of Illustrated Maps" featuring John Roman, author, assistant professor, Mass. College of Art and Design, at 12:15 in the Museum of Fine Arts at 21 Edwards St., Springfield. Admission is \$4 (\$2 for museum members). Parking is free. For information, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 488.

Tuesday, Sept. 20

THE AGAWAM CULTURAL COUNCIL will meet at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. The meeting is open to the public. This all-volunteer organization, appointed by the mayor and funded, in part, by the Mass. Cultural Council, is looking for new members.

Wednesday, Sept. 21

THE MISSIONARY COMMITTEE OF THE AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH at 745 Main St., will host Mission Night at the church at 7 p.m. in Bryan Hall. The public is invited to coffee and dessert with Elena Huegel.

Thursday, Sept. 22

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS AT THE QUADRANGLE will present "Pen to Paper" featuring Mary Savig, curator

of manuscripts at the Smithsonian's Archives of American Art, at 12:15 in the Museum of Fine Arts at 21 Edwards St., Springfield. Admission is \$4 (\$2 for museum members). Parking is free. For information, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 488.

Sunday, Sept. 25

SACRED AMERICAN MUSIC, 1816-2016, community concert at 2 p.m. at Copper Hill United Methodist Church, 27 Copper Hill Road, E. Granby, Conn.

Thursday, Sept. 29

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS AT THE QUADRANGLE will present "When the Road Came Through: How the Construction of Interstate 91 Changed Western Mass." featuring Barry Dietz, local historian, at 12:15 in the Museum of Fine Arts at 21 Edwards St., Springfield. Admission is \$4 (\$2 for museum members). Parking is free. For information, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 488.

Saturday, Oct. 1

THE TASTE OF ITALY FESTIVAL at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish from 4:30 to 8 p.m. at 36 Margaret St., Springfield. This celebration will begin with Mass in the

church on William Street at 4 p.m. There is no entrance fee; parking is free. Food tickets will be sold.

VICKIE PHILLIPS SINGS "THE GREAT AMERICAN SONG BOOK" at the Springfield JCC, 1160 Dickinson St., Springfield. \$12 for youth, seniors, students; \$18 for adults; \$25 reserved seating. Call 413-739-4715.

Saturday, Oct. 8

ITALIAN CULTURAL CENTER OF WESTERN MASS. will host "Festa Italia! A Taste of Italy, Food and Wine." Admission is free and tickets for food items will be sold in \$1 increments.

Doors open and serving will begin at 5 p.m. The ICC is at 56 Margaret St. in Springfield.

Saturday, Oct. 15

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST GUILD VENDORS FAIR from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the St. John the Evangelist Parish Center, 833 Main St., Agawam.

FRIENDS OF THE SOUTHWICK PUBLIC LIBRARY CRAFT FAIR from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Southwick Town Hall, 454 College Highway.

Saturday, Nov. 19

OUR LADY OF THE LAKE CHURCH annual Christmas Craft Fair and Bake Sale today and tomorrow. The Knights of Columbus will be serving food on Saturday. Free parking is available behind the church for all. For more information, call 413-569-0162.

ONGOING

ADULT DROP-IN SIT & KNIT meets at the Agawam Public Library at 750 Cooper St. Tuesdays from 1-3 p.m. Bring your sticks and join other knitters for creative time. No registration is required.

THE WESTFIELD FARMERS MARKET is open every Thursday, rain or shine, from noon to 6 p.m. on the lawn of the Episcopal Church of the Atonement, 36 Court St., until Oct. 6. Free parking available. ADA accessible. Locally grown flowers, plants, vegetables, fruit, honey and bee products, goats' meat and milk products, baked goods, wine, wood crafts, dairy and more. SNAP customers receive up to \$10 match in purchasing benefit weekly.

GRANDPARENT'S PLAYGROUP Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m., at St. David's Church, 699 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. This free infant and toddler playgroup features music and movement, fostering children's interactions and sharing skills. Open to all grandparents and their grandchildren. Follows school schedule.

MOM 2 MOM takes place the second Tuesday of every month October through June, 9:30 to 11 a.m. at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St. A round-table discussion hosted by a local "veteran" mom, this is a great way to have further conversation on recent café themes and parent education events, celebrate parenting and receive encouragement for the trials.

THE AGAWAM ST. PATRICK COMMITTEE meets the third Wednesday of each month, September through June, at 6:30 p.m. in the lower level classroom at St. John the Evangelist Church, 833 Main St., Agawam. For information on how to join, call Vera Conway at 413-786-3247 or email Rosemary Sandlin at rosemary-sandlin@gmail.com

ADULT DROP-IN SIT AND KNIT meets every Tuesday from 1-3 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. No registration needed.

AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 459 Mill St., Agawam, offers "Crochet Club" every other Tuesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. This club is open to all needle-workers, including crocheters, knitters, quilters, and embroiderers. For more information, call 413-786-7991.

Agawam Senior Center

Lunch Menu

Monday, Sept. 12: Chicken chow mein, brown rice, crunchy noodles, apples.

Tuesday, Sept. 13: French meat pie, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, pudding.

Wednesday, Sept. 14: Chicken tetrazini over egg noodles, pears, broccoli.

Thursday, Sept. 15: Roast pork, roasted potatoes and carrots, applesauce.

Friday, Sept. 16: Sweet potato crusted cod, Mediterranean sauce, rice pilaf, mixed vegetables, peaches.

Calendar of Events

Monday, Sept. 12: Free hearing screening by Ear Masters; 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9:30 a.m., line dancing; 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 1 p.m., Bingo; 2 p.m., monthly dance with Richie Mitnick; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold; 6 p.m., cancer survivor group meeting (conference room).

Tuesday, Sept. 13: 9 a.m., exercise class, knitting

class, sewing class; 9:30 a.m., shuffleboard at St. John's Field; 10 a.m., chair exercise; noon, ladies only billiards; 12:30 p.m., mah jongg, movie ("Mother's Day"); 1 p.m., Mexican Train Game; 2:30 p.m., chorus; 4 p.m., ADA meeting; 4:30 p.m., yoga; 6 p.m., beginner line dance; 7 p.m., Garden Club meeting.

Wednesday, Sept. 14: 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9:45 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 10 a.m., Friends meeting; 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1 p.m., ballroom lessons, scrabble; 1:30 p.m., Golden Agers Chapter 1 meeting; 2 p.m., CPA Jack Welch available (by appt.); 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.

Thursday, Sept. 15: 9 a.m., exercise; 9:30 a.m., quilting; 10 a.m., line dancing; 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1 p.m., pitch, open art begins; 2 p.m., Melody Band practice (subject to change); 6:30 p.m., evening pitch, evening line dancing.

Friday, Sept. 16: 8 a.m., yoga; 9:15 a.m., all media art; 10 a.m., tai chi; noon, canasta; 1 p.m., pitch, cribbage; 4 p.m., poker.

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Estate Sale

ESTATE AND TAG Sale Jewelry, electric stove, table & chairs, and misc. items. 10am-4pm Sept. 10-11. Raindate Sept. 17-18. No early birds please. 42 Lamb Street, South Hadley, corner School St.

Tag Sale

124 MEADOW ROAD, East Longmeadow. Sat-Sun Sept. 10-11, 9am. Terrariums, Home office, bedding, rugs, furniture, BBQ and outdoor sets, baby items, kids toys, dishware. Lots under a dollar. Enjoy snacks/drinks.

**DEEP SEA FISHERMAN****WANTED**

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Tag Sale

MOVING SALE BELCHERTOWN, 292 Springfield Road. Sat. Sept. 10th 8am-2pm. Modern dining set, tall corner bookcase, kitchen, linens, rugs, tools.

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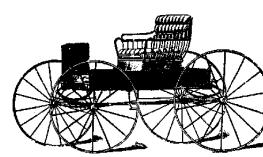
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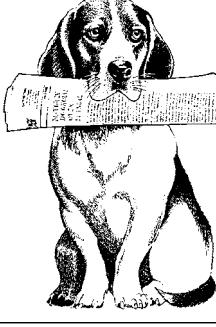
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Our Town

Happy 100th,
Louise!



Louise Faits, a longtime resident at Heritage Woods Senior Living in Agawam, celebrated her 100th birthday on Tuesday, Aug. 30. Family and friends threw her a surprise birthday party at Heritage Woods, where the guest of honor was showered with gifts and well wishes. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Touching history



Agawam residents Darcie and Joseph E. Calise, both Air Force veterans, took their grandsons to view the the Wall That Heals, a half-scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial, which was on display last month on the grounds of the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield. Darcie's brother Robert Pope, who lives in Florida, served in Vietnam. Pictured is their grandson Toby Armitage at the wall. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Residents took top 2 spots in Ms. Mass. Senior Pageant

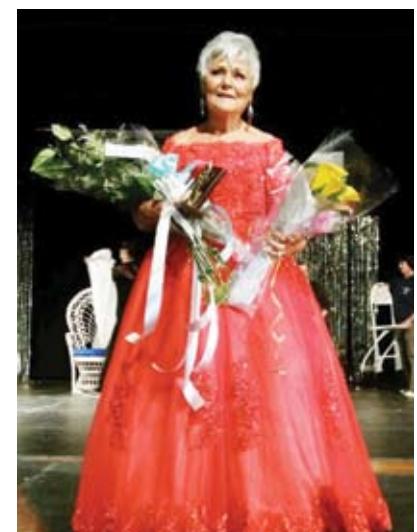


Pictured from left are Lorraine Gorham, state director of the Ms. Massachusetts Senior America Pageant; Holly Joy Pearson; Mayor Richard Cohen; Patricia Liquore; and Joanne Impoco, pageant producer and director. SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Mayor Richard Cohen presented citations recently to Agawam residents Holly Joy Pearson and Patricia Liquore, contestants in the 2016 Ms. Massachusetts Senior America Pageant held in May at Holyoke High School. Pearson won the pageant, as well as Best Interview, Best Talent and Best Philosophy of Life categories; Liquore was first runner-up and winner of the Best Evening Gown category.



Holly Joy Pearson was the winner of the Ms. Massachusetts Senior America Pageant in May.



Patricia Liquore after winning the evening gown competition at the Ms. Massachusetts Senior America Pageant in May.

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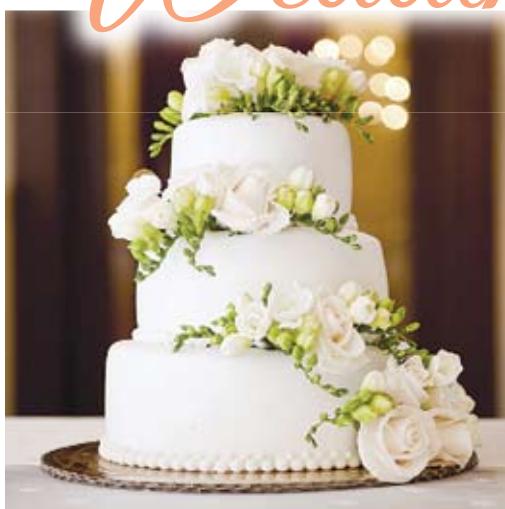
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